Cooperative societies are exempted from the above ceilings.

Security arrangements in North-Eastern Region

*139. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to tighten the security arrangements in North-Eastern Region to bring under control the mounting insurgency in that region; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in the matter keeping in view the ever deteriorating situation in the North-Eastern Region ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The situation in the North-Eastern Region is kept under constant watch and is reviewed from time to time. A series of measures have been taken under the policy of the Governm nt to deal firmly with those indulging in secessionist and terrorist activities while simultaneously continuing efforts to encourage them to join the mainstream of national life provided they abjure violence and agree to work within the Constitution of India. Besides review of the situation from time to time at various levels, a series of measures have been taken which, inter-alia, include the declaration of the most seriously affected areas as "disturbed areas", notification of certain militant groups as "unlawful associations", deployment of additional units of the Army and the Central Para Military Forces, financial assistance to the North Eastern States for modernisation and upgradation of State Police Forces, raising of India Reserve Battalions and better sharing of information and coordination of counter-insurgency operations. Simultaneously, steps continue to be taken for economic development, particularly with a view to improving the basic infrastructure in the region.

National debate on TADA

*140. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) by when legislative changes are to be brought about, amending TADA;

(b) whether Government intend to promote a national debate on this issue; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN); (a) to (c) All aspects of the matter including the issues arising out of the Supreme Court judgement on TADA, are under examination of the Government.

Telephone connections in Shahadara Exchange from MPs quota

1223. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number and the details of telephone connections allotted in Shahadara telephone exchange from 1st January, 1994, till date, from the MPs out-of-turn priority quota;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the connections which were already sanctioned to the respective C.G.Ms. have not been installed so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to install the telephone connections sanctioned under the MP's quota?